capita consumption expenditure as the criterion to determine the persons living below the poverty line. The per capita consumption norm has been fixed at Rs. 49.09 per month in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per month in urban areas at 1973-74 prices at national level corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 kcal in rural areas and 2100 kcal in urban areas. The state-specific poverty lines are derived from the national level poverty lines, using state-specific price indices and inter-state price differentials. The national poverty line at 1999-2000 prices is Rs. 327.56 per capita per month in rural areas and Rs. 454.11 per capita per month in urban areas.

(c) and (d) The poverty line determined on the basis of fixed norms has been used to divide the entire population into two groups namely people living below the poverty line and people living above the poverty line. No separate standards exist for persons living above the poverty line.

Tenth Five Year Plan

314. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised the draft of Tenth Five year Plan;

(b) if so, the major highlights thereof;

(c) by when, the document is likely to be placed before the National Development Council and Parliament for deliberation and finalisation; and

(d) what is the projected annual growth rate envisaged in the plan and how it is sought to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) Approval of a Five year Plan is accorded by the National Development Council (NDC). The draft Tenth Plan has recently been cleared by Full Planning Commission and the Cabinet, and is to be placed for the consideration and approval of the

NDC. The NDC is scheduled to meet on 21st December, 2002 for the purpose. After it is approved by the NDC, the Document will be laid in both the Houses of the Parliament.

Reduction in Number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

315. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has decided to reduce the number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS);

(b) if so, what are the schemes proposed to be abolished/merged with other such schemes; and

(c) what is the final state of the CSS to be implemented during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Planning Commission has undertaken a review of the existing Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and has subjected them to Zero-Based Budgeting. It is proposed to retain only those schemes in the Tenth Plan that are demonstrably essential. The CSS schemes to be implemented in the Tenth Plan are part of the Tenth Plan Document which will be placed before the National Development Council (NDC) for approval. The NDC is scheduled to meet on 21st December, 2002 for the purpose.

Financial Health of Rajasthan

316. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 4629 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th May, 2002 and state:

(a) what specific proposals have been made by Rajasthan for readjustment of the loan grant ratio in the Central Plan Assistance for restoration of financial health of the State especially in view of the recurrent drought and scarcity that hit the State during the recent years; and

(b) the details of the Medium Term Fiscal Reforms Plan drawn up